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COMPREHENSIVE USG TALKING POINTS FOR KAGAME VISIT
RELEASED IN FULL

- We share the same goals of peace and reconciliation for Rwanda.
- To achieve these goals requires real progress in several key areas: creating a sense of security in and outside Rwanda, creating conditions that will favor refugee return, ensuring accountability for the genocide and other atrocities, establishing a political dialogue, and assuring representative government.

AID: WHAT WE CAN DO FOR RWANDA

- We are committed to assisting Rwanda in creating conditions inside the country that will facilitate refugee return.
- As you know, we are planning to help pay off your government's arrears to the World Bank. We are also funding basic equipment for the justice system and intend to assist key ministries in becoming fully operational and restoring basic services inside Rwanda.
- Through an informal "friends" group, we have sought to encourage and coordinate other donor assistance.
- In all humanitarian disasters, relief aid far outstrips development aid. Emergency relief funds and development funds are not fungible. This does not in any way mean that the international community is seeking to make a political statement or to favor one or another group. It is simply a question of saving human lives.

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM THE GOR

Security Inside Rwanda/Human Rights

- For the donor community to be fully responsive, your government needs to assure security inside Rwanda and respect for human rights.
- We appreciate the difficulty you face in maintaining discipline among your troops under such exceptional circumstances. However, it is critical that you do so in order to attract refugees back and begin to achieve reconciliation.
- We welcome your government's agreement to name a point person on human rights and to allow free access for UNAMIR and human rights monitors.
- UNAMIR and the monitors can help reassure refugees that it is safe to return. The planned UNAMIR radio station can reinforce these efforts. We urge you to give these activities your full support.

- We were concerned by the recent violence associated with the RPA's forcible closure of a displaced camp in the southwest, and by the recent order that expatriate drivers of certain NGO's (Solidartite and Equilibre) serving the displaced camps must leave the country.
- We urge you to work with the UN and relief agencies in a planned fashion to ensure the peaceful, orderly, and voluntary return of the displaced to their homes.
- We understand the serious problem you have dealing with arrests and detentions of those suspected of genocide and atrocities.
- We understand you are now requiring the corroboration of several witnesses before making an arrest. We encourage steps such as this which will minimize the likelihood of unjustified arrests and detentions.
- We commend you on the free access you have granted to prisoners and urge you to do what you can to assure humane conditions.
- We understand you need to re-establish your civilian police force. We know the UN is helping to train gendarmes and would be interested to know how this program is progressing.
- We urge you to establish mechanisms for handling land tenure disputes as quickly as possible, and to enact any necessary legislation. This problem, if unresolved, could be the seed for more unrest and violence.
- We and other donors will help you in reestablishing your judicial system to help address these many problems.

Political Reconciliation/Democratization

- We welcome your government's stated commitment to the principles of Arusha. These commitments need to be translated into actions. Your government must continue efforts to broaden its base and establish a truly national, integrated army.
- To promote representative government, you must create a climate in which individuals and groups are willing to come forward and engage in a dialogue.
- We know your government has made overtures to moderates outside the country. We applaud these efforts and encourage you to continue reaching out to Rwandans in and outside Rwanda who want to see Rwanda move forward on the basis of the principles of Arusha.

-- We know you are working to absorb acceptable elements of the ex-FAR. We consider this very important to overall reconciliation and would like to know how the effort is progressing.

-- It is crucial that all elements of the government and military accept the fundamental principle of civilian control of the military. You are in a unique position to see that this message is heard and followed.

(If asked:)

-- While current law prohibits us from providing military assistance to Rwanda this year, we would consider providing future aid focused on fostering good civil/military relations.

AREAS OF COOPERATION

Accountability

- We are fully committed to ensuring that those responsible for the genocide are brought to justice.
- We welcome your government's intention to cooperate with the International Tribunal. We know you share our goal of full accountability, and your full cooperation with the work of the Tribunal is crucial to this goal.
- We and other donors will help you re-establish your domestic judicial system, and we welcome your government's willingness to allow observers at local trials.

Security Outside Rwanda

- We are very disturbed by the continuing violence and intimidation in the refugee camps. We agree that some action must be taken to enhance security.
- We have discussed this issue at length with the UN, other Security Council members, and members of the new "friends" group. We hope to have an agreed UN strategy very soon.
- We urge you to cooperate with your neighbors and continue regional discussions to address this crucial topic.
- We strongly support the convening of a regional refugee conference to address camp security and other issues. We hope that you will give these efforts your active participation and full support.

OTHER ISSUESAmb. Rawson

-- We regretted to see your public comments on Ambassador Rawson. ~~If you wish to make your views known, you should do so in private.~~

-- Your comments were not helpful. ~~Rwanda does not have a better friend than Ambassador Rawson.~~

Lifting the UN Arms Embargo (If asked only)

-- Rwanda has suffered enough from war. More arms are certainly not the answer. You should be focused on reconciliation, not renewed warfare.

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